

WISCONSIN DNR FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET

LAKE: CARROL COUNTY: ONEIDA YEAR: 2005

The Department of Natural Resources surveyed Carrol Lake, Oneida County, from April 14 through June 8, 2005, to determine the health of its fishery. The survey was designed to take a comprehensive look at the lake's fishery. Carrol Lake is a relatively fertile drainage lake with chiefly sand substrate and significant areas of gravel and rubble. Carrol Lake has a low-density walleye population. It has a surface area of 352 acres, 6.1 miles of shoreline and a maximum depth of 27 feet.

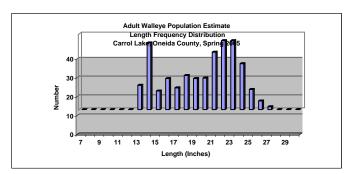


Figure 1. Length frequency distribution of 282 adult* walleye estimated to be in Carrol Lake, Oneida County, based on a spring 2005 survey.

* Note: Adult walleye are defined as all sexable walleye and walleye of unknown sex ≥ 15 inches long.

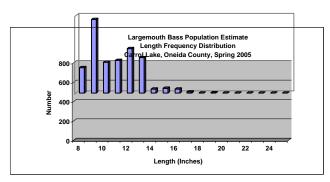


Figure 2. Length frequency distribution of 2654 largemouth bass ≥ 8" estimated to be in Carrol Lake, Oneida County, based on a spring 2005 survey.

* Note: All values given above are for largemouth bass 8 inches long or larger.

Northern Pike

We captured 56 adult* northern pike in fyke nets fished in Carrol Lake from April 14-17, 2005. Approximately 96% (54 of 56) of adult northern pike we captured were less than 26 inches long. The largest northern pike we captured was a 28.9-inch female.

* Note: Adult northern pike are defined as all sexable northern pike and northern pike of unknown sex \geq 12 inches long.

Walleye

We conducted a mark-recapture survey of Carrol Lake's adult* walleye population from April 14-18, 2005. We captured and marked (fin clipped) 165 adult walleye in four days of fyke netting. A crew sampled Carrol Lake with an electro-fishing boat on April 18th and captured 17 adult walleye. Nearly 53% (9 of 17) of those walleye had been marked (fin clipped) during fyke netting.

Based on those results, we estimated that Carrol Lake was inhabited by 282 adult walleye (0.8/acre). Nearly 83% (233 of 282) of adult walleye were 15 inches long or larger. The largest walleye we captured was a 27-inch female.

Largemouth Bass

We also completed a mark-recapture survey of Carrol Lake's largemouth bass population* from April 14 through June 8, 2005. We captured and marked (fin clipped) 303 largemouth bass through June 6th. An electro-fishing crew captured 194 largemouth bass on June 8th. Approximately 10% (20 of 194) of those largemouth had been marked in previous sampling.

From those results, we estimated that Carrol Lake was home to 2654 largemouth bass, 8-inches or larger, (7.5/acre). Nearly 6% (148 of 2654) of those largemouth were 14 inches long or larger. The biggest largemouth bass we captured was 19.3 inches long.

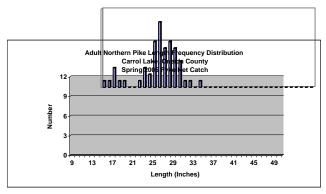


Figure 3. Length frequency distribution of 56 adult* northern pike captured in fyke nets during a fisheries survey of Carrol Lake, Oneida County, in spring 2005.

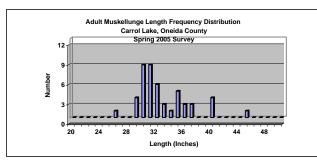


Figure 4. Length frequency distribution of 40 adult* muskellunge captured during a fisheries survey of Carrol Lake, Oneida County, in spring 2005.

Muskellunge

We captured 40 adult* muskellunge during our fyke netting and electro-fishing sampling of Carrol Lake. Roughly one-third of the adult muskellunge (13 of 40) we captured were 34 inches long or larger. Ten percent of muskellunge (4 of 40) were 40 inches long or larger. The largest muskellunge we captured was a 45.8-inch female.

* Note: Adult muskellunge are defined as all sexable muskellunge and muskellunge of unknown sex ≥ 20 inches long.

Other Species

We captured nine species of fish in our fyke netting and electro-fishing sampling of Carrol Lake in addition to the game fish mentioned above. We captured five smallmouth bass, 8-inches or larger, from April 14 through June 8, 2005. The largest smallmouth bass we captured was 10.7 inches long. Yellow perch were abundant in our fyke net catches. Black crappie, bluegill and rock bass were common. We also caught bowfin (dogfish), pumpkinseed, white sucker and yellow bullhead. Young-of-year walleye will be sampled in fall 2005. Additional sampling with fyke nets is planned for spring 2006 to capture muskellunge and complete a population estimate.

We are also conducting a creel (angler harvest) survey on Carrol Lake this year. Creel clerk John Logan will count and interview anglers and examine their catch throughout the 2005 open-water fishing season.

Table 1. General Fishing Regulations for Carrol Lake, Oneida County, 2005

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 7 - March 5	3	15 inches
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass	May 7 - June 17 (C&R)	None	
	June 18 - March 5 (Harvest)	5 in total	14 inches
Muskellunge	May 28 - Nov. 30	1	34 inches
Northern Pike	May 7 - March 5	5	None

A brief summary of selected fishing regulations for Carrol Lake is included above (Table 1). While the regulatory information provided was current at the time the surveys were conducted, it is not comprehensive and should not be used as a substitute for the current fishing regulation pamphlet. You may obtain a copy of current fishing regulations when you purchase your fishing license, or download a copy from our web site at:

http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/fish/

This report is interim only; data and findings should not be considered final. Results of creel surveys should be available by June 2006. If you are interested in a summary of the creel survey or want an update on this year's fyke netting and electro-fishing survey results, contact:

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